(b) whether the deals regarding purchase of Sukhoi 30 fighter aircrafts from Russia, Barak Missiles, T-90 Tanks, Rocket launchers, Kandla-Bhatinda pipeline and Tehelka scam are also included in these deals; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) to (c) As per its terms of reference, the Justice K. Venkataswami Commission of Inquiry, which was appointed by Government following the Tehelka tape revelation, is investigating certain transactions relating to Ministry of Defence including SU-30 aircraft, Barak Missiles, T-90S Tanks, rocket Launcher MK-III, besides the Kandla-Bhatinda pipeline transaction pertaining to Indian Oil Corporation.

Report of the Joshi Committee set up to study the problems of Army Officers

1681. SHRI AMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have since received a report of the Committee headed by Lt. General Joshi which was appointed to study the problems of the officers cadre particularly of the superseded Army Officers whose promotional avenues are closed;

(b) if so, when and what are the salient features of the report; and

(c) what action Government have taken on the recommendations of the Committee and if not, by when, it is likely to be taken?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) The internal Committee ordered by Army Headquarters has since submitted its report.

(b) The report deals with certain aspects pertaining to the management of the Officers Cadre.

(c) The report of the Committee is still under discussion at Army Headquarters.

Polluting ordnance factory in Medak, A.P.

1682. DR. C. NARAYANA REDDY: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a complaint against ordnance factory in Medak District, Andhra Pradesh that it is discharging hazardous chemicals causing surface, ground water and air pollution;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the effluent and sewage treatment plants of the factory are not in working condition; and

(c) if so, what measures have been taken by Government to avoid pollution?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) Yes, Sir. There was an isolated complaint to this effect made by an employee of the factory to the management.

(b) No, Sir. The effluent and sewage treatment plants of the factory are in working condition.

(c) Does not arise.

Opening of Maharaja Ranjit Singh Defence University

†1683. SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH 'LALAN':
SHRI KAPIL SIBAL:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a decision has been taken to open a defence University in the name of Maharaja Ranjit Singh;

(b) if so, whether it is a fact that a team of officers from the Ministry of Defence has been sent to the US and China to make a study and submit reports; and

(c) if so, whether the report of the team has been received and if so, by when the University is likely to start functioning?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) The Group of Ministers which examined the National Security system, has recommended *inter alia* the setting up of a NDU. A Committee under the Chairmanship of Shri K. Subrahamanyam has been set up on 23rd July, 2001 to examine the establishment of a National Defence University in India.

(b) A select sub-group of the Committee and officials from the Ministry of Defence undertook visits to national Defence University of USA and National Defence University of China.

(c) The term of the Committee is till 31st December, 2001. Decision will be taken based on the report received.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.